

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A gasket material to be mounted on an engine of a vehicle, comprising:

a metal plate;

a film made from silica and a reaction product of an acid component and a metal or a compound of a metal other than chromium or a chromium compound, and

a rubber layer formed on at least one of opposite surfaces of the metal plate through the film.

2. (Currently Amended) A gasket material according to Claim 1,

wherein the acid component for the film is comprised of at least one ~~kind~~member selected from the group consisting of phosphoric acid, orthophosphoric acid, condensed phosphoric acid, anhydrous phosphoric acid, acetic acid, formic acid, sulfuric acid, nitric acid, hydrofluoric acid, fluorocomplex and organic acid.

3. Canceled.

4. (Original) A gasket material according to Claim 1,

wherein the acid component is blended at a ratio of 5-50 wt% in solid content of a treatment solution for forming the film.

5. (Original) A gasket material according to Claim 1,

wherein the silica is blended at a ratio of 10-60 wt% in the film.

6. (Original) A gasket material according to Claim 1,

wherein the metal or the compound of the metal is blended at a ratio of 1-30 wt% in solid content of the treatment solution for forming the film.

7. (Currently Amended) A gasket material ~~according to Claim 1~~ to be mounted on an engine of a vehicle, comprising: ;

a metal plate;

~~wherein~~ a film made from silica and a reaction product of a mixture of a first acid component and a second acid component is used as the acid component,

wherein the first acid component is one kind ~~member~~ selected from the group consisting of phosphoric acid, orthophosphoric acid, condensed phosphoric acid, anhydrous phosphoric acid, acetic acid, formic acid, sulfuric acid, nitric acid, hydrofluoric acid, fluorocomplex and organic acid, and

~~the second acid component is another kind than the kind selected as the first acid component, and is one kind~~ which is different from the first acid component and is selected from the group consisting of acetic acid, formic acid, hydrofluoric acid and fluorocomplex.

8. (new) A gasket material to be mounted on an engine of a vehicle, comprising:

a metal plate;

a film made from silica and a reaction product of an acid component and a metal or a compound of a metal selected from the group consisting of Fe (iron), Zn (zinc), Ni (nickel), Al (aluminum), Ti (titanium), Zr (zirconium), Mg (magnesium), Mn (manganese), Ca (calcium), W (tungsten), Ce (cerium), V (vanadium), Mo (molybdenum), Li (lithium) and Co (cobalt), and

a rubber layer formed on at least one of opposite surfaces of the metal plate through the film.